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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:	Wood et al.	Confirmation No.:	2979
Serial No.:	10/002,317	Art Unit:	1651
Filed:	October 25, 2001	Examiner:	Marx, Irene
For:	PREVENTING CORROSION WITH BENEFICIAL BIOFILMS	Attorney Docket No:	9842-273-999

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 121

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAY 30 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement mailed on March 25, 2003, in which the Examiner restricted the claims into Groups I-IV as follows:

I. Claims 1-6, drawn to a metal with a protective biofilm comprising any microorganisms, wherein the metal is not steel, copper or aluminum, classified in class 106, subclass 14.05, for example.

II. Claim 7-14, drawn to a process for reducing metal corrosion with a protective biofilm comprising any microorganisms, wherein the metal is not steel, copper or aluminum, classified in class 435, subclass 262.5, for example.

III. Claims 15-23, drawn to any metal having a protective biofilm of a bacterium that secretes a polyanionic chemical composition, classified in class 106, subclass 15.05, for example.

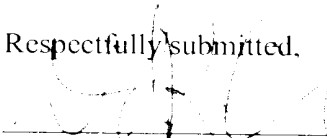
IV. Claims 24-34, drawn to a process for reducing metal corrosion on any metal using a protective biofilm of a bacterium that secretes a polyanionic chemical composition, classified in class 424, subclass 115, for example.

Applicants hereby elect Group IV consisting of Claims 24-34 without traverse.

Applicants have enclosed a Petition for Extension of Time, which extends the period for responding by 1 month to and including **May 25, 2003**. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fee not included with this Response or credit any overpayment to Pennie & Edmonds, LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150 (Order No. 9842-273-999). A copy of this sheet is enclosed for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 23, 2003



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